

WEBSITE COMMITTEE AGENDA

February 27, 2013, 7:00 pm

474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke

Present: Sasha (chair), Carl (cochair), Sally, Bev, Mark (Area chair)

The meeting started with Sasha announcing she is stepping down as Website Committee chair, effective immediately, due to a family emergency. She will cover for Bob, the Webmaster, while he is on vacation, however.

-- Bob is ill tonight and can't come.

-- Carl reported that he went to **Intergroup's** monthly meeting, and told the representatives about the committee and the site. He will post flyers in those rooms and Intergroup is also making them available. He also went to District 4 to do the same.

-- We discussed the **WMYPC spaghetti dinner flyer** at length. Beginning with a number of questions—Is it okay to post it to the site? Is there a question of adding them to the pie chart? What about when they have softball games and bonfires? Is it a fundraiser?—we decided to work through the traditions one by one to see if the flyer in any way violates them, and agreed it was okay to post. Since we are a new committee trying to sort out the Website's role in the Area, this exercise felt productive.

Again, all committees and reps: If you want us to post an event, please give us advanced notice so we have time to review it in the committee. We need to talk these over one by one as we learn how to evaluate these requests.

-- At **NERAASA**, Bob was the person who reported back to the big group about the Web discussions. Sasha read pieces from that report to the meeting. Anonymity was a big theme, as well as a given Area's relationship with its Intergroup. Lots of technical questions came up, as well. The NERAASA Website and IT roundtable group has since started an email discussion group for Webmasters and committee chairs, and our committee discussed a few questions about how it would be set up, exactly. That led us into a discussion of if we need a password-protected area of the Area 31 site? We did not make any decisions about that.

-- We approved the following **Area 31 Website mission statement**:

The Area 31 Website provides a link between AA World Services and the AA groups and meetings within Western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut. By providing easily accessible information about Area 31 general service activities, events, and procedures, the Website serves as a communication tool for:

- Area committee members and officers
- AA members represented by the Area
- The general public

Still to be decided is where this will be located on the site. That led us to a discussion about the homepage images, and if we want or need FAQs.

-- Sasha has sent the proposed **handbook language** to Mark. The Website committee needs to keep him up to date about all changes.

-- The delegate has background information about the General Service meeting in New York that will go into a **secure repository** on the site. Bob will update us about that when he returns.

-- We continued our discussion about giving another person **Website editing capability**, including a possible alternate webmaster, or the chair or cochair having this ability. Again, we need the Webmaster to weigh in here.

A sense of the committee emerged that we do not want to require the chair to be the Webmaster backup. We could ask the Webmaster to train a few volunteer Committee members. We agreed that the Webmaster should document his process as much as possible and pass that and the passwords along to the Area chair, so he can pass it along, as necessary.

We adjourned at about 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sasha, Website Committee chair